
HOWARD HALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Erica Fenner-McAdoo
Principal

Carrie Richard
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August 17, 2023

Welcome Back Hornet Family!

The summer is winding down and the start of the 2023-24 school year is quickly approaching. I hope summer has been good to you and you have enjoyed your time with your children. We can't wait for you to tag us back in to get started with teaching and learning.

Our school theme this year is The Hornet Way! Howard Hall is a special place and we want you to be proud of our school. The Hornet Way is all about putting children first, having a strong work ethic, and striving for excellence in everything we do. This year we will focus on standards aligned instruction, small group instruction, positive behavior and character traits, and continue with our in school tutoring program. Our team is ready to welcome our hornets to the start of a spectacular year!

Please review this letter and mark your calendars. Additional information will be provided by your child's teacher.

Your child's teacher assignment:

Teacher Name - Room # This information will be sent to all parents via a postcard in the mail. You should receive these very soon.

Open House for Grades 1-5

Open house will be held on Thursday, August 24 at two different times. The first option is 9:00-11:00am and the second option is 5:00-7:00pm. Families will enter through the front door. There will be staff present to direct you to your child's class. Families will need to visit the cafeteria to obtain information about bus routes, drivers, and times. To keep traffic in our hallways as minimal as possible, we ask that no more than 3 adults attend for each family. Thank you in advance.

Open House Photos

We will have a place for all hornet families to take an open house photo. Please post your photo to Twitter and tag our school to be retweeted. @HowardHallElem Also, be sure to follow us on Twitter and Facebook. We have a new Facebook page, Howard Hall Classical Elementary School. You will know it is our school if you see the live videos from our Stuff the Bus event recently held at Walmart. Please friend it so you can stay in the know!

KINDERGARTEN ONLY

- The official, face to face, open house for kindergarten is not until Friday, September 1.
- All Kindergarten students will participate in a Staggered Entry process.
- Kindergarten students will attend one day (either Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday) during the first week of school.
- A parent will enter the school and report to the cafeteria on the morning their child is assigned for Staggered Entry. Parents will sign in and complete an emergency contact form prior to the child entering a classroom. (The intake process may take a parent 15-20 minutes)
- The front doors will open for kindergarten parents beginning at 7:15. All parents should arrive prior to 7:45. Kindergarten parents are asked to arrive for pick up at the school between 1:50 and 2:05 on their staggered entry day. We will dismiss the children from the front door.
- Please be aware that all parents wishing to enter the building will come through the front door so please be patient as we ensure the safety of all the children and staff.
- Students will not be assigned a teacher of record for the opening week of school.
- Students will be divided into smaller groups and placed in classrooms upon arrival.
- Kindergarten teachers will use the staggered schedule to begin initial entry assessments.
- Parents/families will be notified of teacher assignments via phone call or email if you do not answer the phone call on Thursday evening. Open House for kindergarten is on Friday, September 1 from 7:15-11:15am. It is floating.
- The expectation of Friday's Open House/Meet and Greet is for families to have an opportunity to meet their child's teacher and receive any pertinent information regarding the upcoming school year. You may bring the school supplies on this day so they go to the proper teacher. Students will not remain at school on this day.

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Kindergarten students in Spanish classes	Grouped by last name	A-I	J-Z			Open House 7:15-11:15
Kindergarten students in English classes	Grouped by last name	A-G	H-M	N-S	T-Z	Open House 7:15-11:15

Monday, September 4 is a holiday. All kindergarten students will report on Tuesday, September 5, 2023. Students arrive between 7:15 and 7:50. Dismissal is at 2:30.

School Building Entry for Visitors

Parents and guardians will only be allowed inside the building in the morning through the front office beginning at 7:15. Parents who wish to walk their children to class must sign in, show identification, and receive a visitors pass. Parents may not exit from any door in the building other than the front door. This is for the safety and security of all our students and staff. All parents must exit the building no later than 7:50am. At this time we will begin announcements and instruction soon thereafter.

Note: We do not prop doors open for any reason. This is for the safety and security of all.

Uniforms and Dress Code

Howard Hall is no longer a uniform school, however there is still a dress code for all students. The dress code is posted on our school website. Please review it and ask questions as needed. Thank you!

Supply List

The supply list is located on our school website. Please review it and prepare as much as you are able to. We will provide supplies for students who are unable to purchase.

2023-24 Spirit Shirts

Our PTA will be selling spirit shirts this year. Please see them at Open House for more information on how to purchase. A Class Tag message will be sent with further details and links to purchase.

PTA @ OPEN HOUSE

The PTA will be present during Open House. They will be located in the cafeteria. You may see them to sign up for membership, sign up for volunteer opportunities, and ask any other pertinent questions.

Daily Schedule

Please visit our school website to view our school schedule. The initials on the left are those of the teachers. Please review it and be prepared to ask questions about the schedule during open house with your child's teacher. There you will receive a more detailed description of what your child will be engaged in during the day.

Communication/Apps

We use an app called Class Tag schoolwide. Please download the app so that you can become connected to your child's classroom teacher and to the school. We consistently send out information to keep you in the know. You will also be able to directly communicate with your child's teacher on the app.

We also use an app called Live School. Live School is the place where we track behavior points. You will have access to view the points your child is earning. You will receive a QR code to connect to both apps at Open House.

Medication Sign In

We are looking to have all medication signed in prior to the first day of school. Please bring all medication and the proper documentation to the front office by August 25th. Our front office staff will be ready to assist you. If you have questions about forms, please call us.

Breakfast, Lunch and Recess

Students will eat breakfast in the cafeteria. All students eating breakfast will enter the building and go straight to the cafeteria. Monitors will be inside the cafeteria. The lunch schedule is inside the master schedule. Howard Hall is a CEP school which means all students enrolled will receive free breakfast and lunch. There is no need to fill out a lunch application this year.

Students will have recess daily. Recess will most often be outside with the exception of extreme high or low temperatures. In these cases students will engage in indoor activities.

Prime Time

Howard Hall is a Prime Time site this year, serving students in the morning and afternoon. Prime Time has a 6:30am opening for the morning and 6:00pm close in the evening. If you are interested in signing your child up please call the Prime Time office at (910) 678-2451.

Computers for All

CCS is a one to one county. This means that every student will be issued a school computer. It is imperative that all students have this device in the event of inclement weather/school closures. On those days, school will not be in session but students will be given course work on their computer.

Parents will sign for their child's computer at Open House. The computer will be issued to the student on the first day of school. Lower grade teachers may choose to keep the computers at school. Upper grade teachers may send them home for homework to be completed. Each teacher will share their process with you at Open House. Students may not receive a computer until it has been signed for by the parent or guardian.

PBIS and House System

Our school will continue with the House System in conjunction with our PBIS program. All new students will be sorted into a house during our PBIS/House System Kickoff.. Houses are only picked once so the house your child picked originally will remain their house until they leave our school.

The 4 houses are Fidelis: representing trustworthiness, Fervor: representing enthusiasm/being involved, Amicus: representing kindness and Magnus: representing greatness. Every student will learn about our rules and expectations, the house system and what each house represents. Students will be taught character education and the importance and values of team work and community building. We will also focus on SEL (social emotional learning) through the implementation of these 2 systems so students feel connected and loved.

Students will earn their individual points for positive behavior and will also earn points for their house simultaneously. The houses will compete each quarter in a race to earn the most points. Parents will have opportunities to earn points for their child's house. Our goals are to incorporate mentoring and team building across grade levels, reduce bullying, foster an awareness and appreciation of differences, to provide a sense of community and team work that brings about school pride and build positive character.

School Angels Program

Do you have at least 30 minutes a day to make a difference for the students in the Cumberland County Schools? We invite you to come and be a part of this exciting program. In an effort to ensure the continued safety of all students and staff, and the security of our buildings and facilities, the Cumberland

County School system has implemented The School Angels Volunteer Program. This unique program offers the community the opportunity to become involved at the school level and to do their part to help keep our children and our schools safe.

School Angels will communicate via radio to report any and all suspicious activity to school administrators. Additionally, School Angels will check to ensure all gates and fences are secure and will work to ensure other Safety and Security measures are being followed.

Volunteers will receive training prior to being placed at a school. For more information or specific questions, please contact the program facilitator Kenneth McKinnon at 910-678-2457.

Safety is the very first priority at Howard Hall. If you have any free time, please consider signing up for training to participate in this program. Our goal is to have multiple School Angels on our campus weekly. Thank you in advance for helping to keep our school safe.

Upcoming Dates/Mark your calendars

August 24- Open House 9:00-11:00am OR 5:00-7:00pm	Sept. 22- College and Career Day Students and Staff wear college or career attire.
August 28- First Day of School	Sept. 25- School Improvement Mtg. 3:00pm
Sept. 1- Kindergarten Open House 7:15-11:15	Sept. 26- Parent/Teacher Conferences begin
Sept. 1- Fire Drill Practice	October 10- Parent/Teacher Conferences end
Sept. 4- No School Labor Day	October 18- End of 1st Quarter
Sept. 12- Beginning of Grade Test (all 3rd graders)	October 18-20 Benchmark Testing for grades 3-5
Sept. 14- Code Red Lockdown Drill	October 23 & 24- No school for students
Sept. 21- Curriculum and PTA Night 6:00pm	October 25- Report Cards
Sept. 22- Progress Reports	October 27- College and Career Day

Yours in education,

Erica Fenner-McAdoo

CCS 2024 Principal of the Year